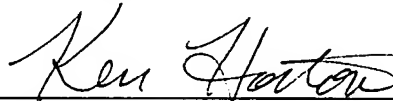


Applicants strongly disagree that these items were not part of the application as originally filed. These items were actually submitted as part of the application, but were separated from the application while being handled by the U.S. Postal Service at off-site storage because of anthrax considerations. Unfortunately, the postcard receipt was also lost during this handling procedure. Thus, Applicants were in a position of being unable to prove that page 16 of the specification was submitted as part of the original application.

For cost and other considerations, Applicants did not petition this issue. Instead, Applicants submit the information in page 16 of the specification via the present Preliminary Amendment. Looking at page 15 of the specification (containing claims 1-9) and page 17 of the specification (containing claims 14-18), it is obvious that page 16 of the specification contained claims 10-13. These same claims 10-13 are now submitted via this Preliminary Amendment.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, including a fee for any extension of time not accounted for above, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 
KENNETH E. HORTON
Reg. No. 39,481

Date: June 19, 2002